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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Clark, et al

Serial No.: 10/780,463

Filed: February 17, 2004

Attorney Docket: MCA-640 CIP US

For: Multifunctional Vacuum Manifold



GROUP: 1743

EXAMINER: Jill Alice Warden

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed in the attached PTO 1449, including a Search Report issued from the European Patent Office on May 27, 2005 and references cited therein. The search report is directed to a foreign counterpart of the above-identified application. This information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above referenced application.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 17, 2006

By: E Stewart Mittler

E. Stewart Mittler
Reg. No. 50,316
Attorney for Applicant
Millipore Corporation
290 Concord Road
Billerica, MA 01821
Telephone: 978-715-1086

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/780,463
Filing Date	02-17-2004
First Named Inventor	Phillip Clark
Art Unit	1743
Examiner Name	Jill Alice Warden
Attorney Docket Number	MCA-640 CIP/US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	WO 01/06003 A	01-25-2001	Mueller et al		
	BB	WO 97/10055 A	03/20/1997	Beckman Instru.		
	BC	EP 1074292 A	02-07-2001	Millipore Corp		
	BD	EP 0408940 A	01-23-1991	Millipore Corp		
	BE	EP 1358 936 A	11-05-2003	Genetix Ltd.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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